GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1637
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2008
SHORTAGE OF PILOTS IN BSF
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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of Pilots in BSF Air Wing as reported in Asian Age dated February 14, 2008;

(b) if so, the reasons for the shortage and whether the same has affected the smooth functioning of BSF Air Wing;

(c) whether the Government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Defence in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the BSF has hired helicopters from the Air Force;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and (g) the total number of pilots required by BSF to meet their requirement and the time by when the Pilots are likely to be recruited?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) & (b): The operation of BSF Air Wing has been affected by shortage of pilots due to rapid increase in the overall demand for pilots in the country.

(c) & (d): The MoU signed with the Ministry of Defence provides, inter alia, for deputation/ re-employment of IAF officers to BSF Air Wing and use of IAF facilities for operation and maintenance of BSF aircraft and helicopters.

(e) &(f): IAF allot flying hours for evacuation of casualty, visit of supervisory officers to field locations in the remote areas and air tonnage for logistic support of air maintained BOPs.

(g):The authorized strength of 26 pilots is expected to be achieved following operationalisation of the MoU. As IAF will send officers on deputation taking into account its own operational requirements, it is not possible to fix a time limit.